**Types of Context Clues**

Study these four common types of context clues. Think about what information in the sentence is useful and what is not. Working with your partner, see if you can come up with different examples for at least two of the types.

**Definition–**the word is defined directly and clearly in the sentence in which it appears.

“The arbitrator, the person who solves disagreements between two people, arrived at her decision.”

**Antonym (or contrast)–**often signaled by the words *whereas*, *unlike*, or *as opposed to*.

“Unlike Jamaal’s room, which was immaculate, Jeffrey’s room was very messy.”

**Synonym (or restatement)–**other words are used in the sentence with similar meanings.

“The slender woman was so thin her clothes were too big on her.

**Inference**–word meanings are not directly described, but need to be inferred from the context.

“The man gigged the large fish, but he needed his friend to enlarge the hole in the ice to drag it out of the frigid water.”